



SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY
MADRID

PSY 3120 M01: Cognitive Psychology Spring 2018

Class Days and Time: Tuesday/Thursday 2:30-3:45pm

Classroom: PRH 6

Prerequisite(s): PSY 1010

Credit(s): 3

Instructor: Andrea Pousada, Ph.D

Instructor's Email: andrea.pousada@slu.edu

Instructor's Campus Phone: 91 554 58 58, ext. 254

Office: SIH 308

Office Hours: Tuesday 3:45-4:45pm (Please make an appointment)

Course Description: This course serves as a general introduction to the field of cognitive psychology and will cover the main processes that take place within the human mind such as attention, perception, memory, problem-solving and language and the related brain areas.

We will also describe the main findings in the primary areas of scientific research within cognitive psychology in order to understand how we process the information that we receive from the surroundings and how our behavior is influenced by our brain and cognitive functions. Both behavioral and neuropsychological approaches to data and theory in cognitive psychology will be covered throughout the course to understand what type of problems can arise from deficits in our cognitive functioning.

Course Goals and Student Learning Outcomes: At the end of the course, students will:

1. Understand the historical context and developed research that helped cognitive psychology to emerge as a separate field within psychology.
2. Be able to explain how humans actively process information in terms of attention and consciousness.
3. Describe the main findings in the primary areas of scientific research within cognitive psychology.
4. Compare and analyze the theories within the primary areas of scientific research and the most common research methods in cognitive psychology.
5. Understand the relationship between the brain and cognitive functions.

Saint Louis University - Madrid Campus is committed to excellent and innovative educational practices. In order to maintain quality academic offerings and to conform to relevant accreditation requirements, the Campus regularly assesses its teaching, services, and programs for evidence of student learning outcomes achievement. For this purpose anonymized representative examples of student work from all courses and programs is kept on file, such as assignments, papers, exams, portfolios, and results from student surveys, focus groups, and reflective exercises. *Thus, copies of student work for this course, including written assignments, in-class exercises, and exams may be kept on file for institutional research, assessment and accreditation purposes.* If students prefer that Saint Louis University - Madrid Campus does not keep their work on file, they need to communicate their decision in writing to the professor.

Required Texts and Materials: Kellogg, R.T. (2016). Fundamentals of Cognitive Psychology. 3rd Edition. Sage Publications.

Attendance Policy: Students are expected to attend class regularly and to arrive to class promptly. Late arrival to class is not only rude, it is disruptive to both the professor and fellow classmates. You are responsible for all announcements made and/or material covered during class meetings. Please keep in mind that on occasion, when the class as a whole is interested in pursuing a topic more in depth, when the opportunity arises to invite a guest speaker, or when other unpredictable events happen, slight changes may be made in the schedule on the syllabus, so it is always best to come to class and stay informed.

Class lectures will include topics in more detail than the text allows, and topics that are not in the text at all. Anything discussed in class may appear on exams. In addition, a large part of your semester grade will come from in-class activities and assignments. These assignments cannot be made up if you are absent for any reason. As such, it will be difficult to be successful in this class without attending regularly. Although the professor does not take attendance, please keep in mind that your class participation grade may be negatively affected for excessive absences or tardiness. Students who miss class due to illness are asked to notify the professor as soon as possible to discuss the issue and agree upon the appropriate course of action.

Classroom Etiquette: Appropriate behavior in the classroom is expected at all times. Part of the goal of this course is to help train you to be successful in a professional environment. Professionalism includes being punctual, speaking clearly and calmly, respecting and working well with others. If you have special circumstances that will prevent you from arriving on time or you need to leave earlier on a regular basis, please let me know in advance. During class we will sometimes have discussions in which students are encouraged to express their own opinions and views. Respecting other students' opinions and values -no matter how different they differ from one's own- is essential to creating a comfortable environment that fosters intellectual discussion. Prejudice and discrimination will not be tolerated. Debate is an excellent way to facilitate critical thinking, but respect for others must be maintained in all discussions.

Course Requirements and Grading Rationale/System:

- **Exams:** There will be 2 noncumulative exams throughout the semester (a midterm and a final exam). Any material presented or discussed in class as well as extra readings or activities can be included in the exam. Exams will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. Students who miss an exam for an **emergency** (e.g. hospitalization, death in the family) must contact the professor immediately to evaluate the situation and, schedule a makeup exam. Final exam times are determined by the Registrar and cannot be changed. Students who believe they have an extenuating circumstance that warrants a change in the date/time of the final exam must speak directly with the Academic Dean. Students who do not show up for a midterm or final exam without such extenuating circumstances will receive a grade of 0, or "F".
- **Class activities/Homework:** Throughout the semester there will be many class activities that will count toward your grade. In most cases these activities will not be announced in advance so it is important to attend class regularly. If you don't attend or are late to class on the day of an activity and miss it, you cannot receive points for that activity. These activities may include (but are not limited to) participation in demonstrations of an experiment, worksheets completed individually or in groups and participation in group discussions. Some of these activities may become homework assignments that will be turned in on the following class day (unless otherwise instructed).
- **Readings/Quizzes:** It is your responsibility to keep up with the readings for the course. Students are expected to have completed the course readings prior to the class for which they have been assigned. To hold students accountable for their own familiarization of the terms, occasional pop quizzes will be given during class time. As students are expected to attend class regularly, there will be no make-ups for these quizzes or any other activity.
- **Cognition & Your Career Paper:** The goal of this paper is to help students understand the importance of cognitive psychology in their future occupation. The main theme of the paper must be centered on how research in cognitive psychology has changed the way students view a specific aspect of their future career that they find concerning. For instance, a student interested in health care might be concerned with medical errors (e.g., administering the wrong medication to the wrong patient) and may

draw from research on attention to broaden their understanding of why such mistakes could happen. This assignment is expected to reflect individual effort. Specific requirements and guidelines will be provided.

- **Cognition in Action Paper**: Students will be assigned to work in a group to analyze and explain from the cognitive psychology perspective a real-world problem that affects individuals worldwide. Solutions must reflect novel, original work and be directly tied to cognitive theory and research covered in the first 6 chapters of the text. This assignment is expected to reflect group effort, which will be assessed and factored into the final grade. Specific requirements and guidelines will be provided. Also, students are expected to present their work to the class in a powerpoint format (10-min max). The slides must be shared with the class prior to the scheduled presentation. This assignment will be part of your final grade and is expected to show group effort.
- **Peer review**: Each presentation will be reviewed by two other groups that are expected to provide critical and constructive feedback. The reviewers will fill out forms and list two points of strength and two points of improvement related to the presentation that they review. Specific requirements and guidelines will be provided later in the course.

Anticipated Grading (subject to change):

The final grade is calculated as follows:

- Exams: 2x25= 50%
- Quizzes: 10%
- Your career paper: 10%
- Cognition in action paper + oral presentation: 20%
- Class participation: 10%

Saint Louis University Grade Policy

A	94-100 4.0	Sobresaliente
A-	90-93 3.7	Sobresaliente bajo
B+	87-89 3.3	Notable alto
B	84-86 3.0	Notable
B-	80-83 2.7	Notable bajo
C+	77-79 2.3	Aprobado alto
C	74-76 2.0	Aprobado
C-	70-73 1.7	Aprobado bajo
D	60-69 1.0	Aprobado bajísimo
F	<60 0.0	Suspenso
P/NP		Apto / No apto
W		Clase retirada

E-mail: Campus and course announcements will often be handled by e-mail. Students should check their “@slu.edu” e-mail regularly.

University Statement on Academic Integrity: Academic integrity is honest, truthful and responsible conduct in all academic endeavors. The mission of Saint Louis University is "the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity." Accordingly, all acts of falsehood demean and compromise the corporate endeavors of teaching, research, health care and community service via which SLU embodies its mission. The University strives to prepare students for lives of personal and professional integrity, and therefore regards all breaches of academic integrity as matters of serious concern.

The governing University-level Academic Integrity Policy can be accessed on the Provost's Office [website](#) at: Additionally, SLU-Madrid has posted its academic integrity policy online: <http://www.slu.edu/madrid/academics>. As a member of the University community, you are expected to know and abide by these policies, which detail definitions of violations, processes for reporting violations, sanctions and appeals.

The professor will review these matters during the first weeks of the term. Please direct questions about any facet of academic integrity to your faculty, the chair of the department of your academic program or the Academic Dean of the Madrid Campus.

University Title IX Statement: Saint Louis University and its faculty are committed to supporting our students and seeking an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. If you have encountered any form of sexual misconduct (e.g. sexual assault, sexual harassment, stalking, domestic or dating violence), we encourage you to report this to the University. If you speak with a faculty member about an incident of misconduct, that faculty member must notify SLU's Title IX deputy coordinator, Marta Maruri, whose office is located on the ground floor of Padre Rubio Hall, Avenida del Valle, 28 (mmaruri@slu.edu; 915-54-5858, ext. 213) and share the basic fact of your experience with her. The Title IX deputy coordinator will then be available to assist you in understanding all of your options and in connecting you with all possible resources on and off campus.

If you wish to speak with a confidential source, you may contact the counselors at the SLU-Madrid's Counseling Services on the third floor of San Ignacio Hall (counselingcenter-madrid@slu.edu; 915-54-5858, ext. 230) or Sinews Multiplettherapy Institute, the off-campus provider of counseling services for SLU-Madrid (www.sinews.es; 917-00-1979). To view SLU-Madrid's sexual misconduct policy and for resources, please visit the following web address: <http://www.slu.edu/Documents/Madrid/campus-life/SLUMadridSexualMisconductPolicy.pdf>.

Students with Special Needs: In recognition that people learn in a variety of ways and that learning is influenced by multiple factors (e.g., prior experience, study skills, learning disability), resources to support student success are available on campus. Students who think they might benefit from these resources can find out more about:

- Course-level support (e.g., faculty member, departmental resources, etc.) by asking your course instructor.
- University-level support (e.g., tutoring/writing services, Disability Services) by visiting the Academic Dean's Office (San Ignacio Hall) or by going to <http://www.slu.edu/madrid/learning-resources>.

Students with a documented disability who wish to request academic accommodations must contact Disability Services to discuss accommodation requests and eligibility requirements. Once successfully registered, the student also must notify the course instructor that they wish to access accommodations in the course. Please contact Disability Services at disabilityservices-madrid@slu.edu or +915 54 58 58, ext. 230 for an appointment. Confidentiality will be observed in all inquiries. Once approved, information about the student's eligibility for academic accommodations will be shared with course instructors via email from Disability Services. For more information about academic accommodations, see "Student Resources" on the SLU-Madrid webpage.

Note: Students who do not have a documented disability but who think they may have one are encouraged to contact Disability Services.

Spring 2018 Course Schedule (subject to change at the instructor's discretion):

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC	Readings DUE	Assignments DUE
1	Jan 11	Syllabus and course overview	Syllabus	
2	Jan 16	Introduction to Cognitive Psychology	Ch. 1	
	Jan 18	Introduction to Cognitive Psychology	Ch. 1	
3	Jan 23	Perception	Ch. 2	
	Jan 25	Perception	Ch. 2	
4	Jan 30	Attention	Ch. 3	
	Feb 1	Attention	Ch. 3	
5	Feb 6	Memory systems	Ch. 4	
	Feb 8	Memory systems	Ch. 4	
6	Feb 13	Remembering events	Ch. 5	
	Feb 15	Remembering events	Ch. 5	
7	Feb 20	MIDTERM EXAM		
	Feb 22	WINTER BREAK – NO CLASS		
8	Feb 27	Memory distortions	Ch. 6	
	Mar 1	Memory distortions	Ch. 6	
9	Mar 6	Knowledge representations	Ch. 7	
	Mar 8	Knowledge representations	Ch. 7	
10	Mar 13	Language	Ch. 8	
	Mar 15	Language	Ch. 8	
11	Mar 20	CLASS CANCELED – Special Lecture on Monday, March 19 (TBC)		
	Mar 22	Problem-solving	Ch. 9	
12	Mar 27	HOLIDAY – SEMANA SANTA (EASTER) – NO CLASSES		
	Mar 29	HOLIDAY – SEMANA SANTA (EASTER) – NO CLASSES		
13	Apr 3	Problem-solving	Ch. 9	
	Apr 5	Problem-solving	Ch. 9	Cognition and your career paper
14	Apr 10	Reasoning and decision making	Ch. 10	Cognition in action paper
	Apr 12	Reasoning and decision making	Ch. 10	
15	Apr 17	Group activity - Special class (Cognitive Assessment)		
	Apr 19	Group activity - Special class (Cognitive Assessment)		
16	Apr 24	Group activity - Special class (Cognitive Assessment)		
	Apr 26	Oral presentations		
17	May 1	HOLIDAY - Día del Trabajador		
	May 3	Oral presentations		
18	May 8	FINAL EXAM (12 – 3pm)		

Final Exam Schedules Spring 2018

	4 May (Fr)	7 May (Mn)	8 May (Tu)	9 May (Wd)	10 May (Th)
08:30-11:30	Mn classes that meet at 9:00 & 9:30	Mn classes that meet at 10:00	Mn classes that meet at 11:00 & 11:30	Tu classes that meet at 9:30	Tu classes that meet at 8:00
12:00-15:00	Tu classes that meet at 11:00	Mn classes that meet at 13:00	Tu classes that meet at 14:30	Mn classes that meet at 12:00 & 12:30	Tu classes that meet at 12:30
15:30-18:30	Mn classes that meet at 14:30	Tu classes that meet at 17:00 & 17:30	Mn classes that meet at 16:00	Tu classes that meet at 16:00	Mn classes that meet at 17:30
19:00-22:00	---	---	Mn classes that meet at 18:30 & 19:00	Tu classes that meet at 19:00	---